

Capsule Summary

The Kefauver Schoolhouse is adjacent to U.S. Route 40 Alt. and Hollow Road Creek about one mile east of Middletown. It is a two-story, front gabled frame building three bays wide and three bays deep. The house was constructed in the early-to-mid nineteenth century. Windows consist of 1/1, double-hung, aluminum sash replacements. The only remaining original window is a central attic gable window on the front of the house which is an original wood 2/2 double-hung sash. The entire house is clad with vinyl siding, and the gables and soffit have been covered with aluminum. A full-length front porch with shed roof dates from the mid-to-late twentieth century has a concrete floor and round aluminum posts. The roof has been replaced with asphalt shingles.

The original section of the interior of the house consists of a main living room which has a fireplace. To the left of the living room are several small rooms that are the result of recent renovations which divided the one large room to provide a closet, a bathroom and a laundry room. The first floor of the rear addition consists of a one room kitchen. The second story was not accessible, but the owner stated that the second story layout is identical to the first floor. The house has a full basement. Floor and sill beams are a mixture of hand hewn and sawn beams. The basement floor is dirt.

The Kefauver Schoolhouse appears to have been built in the mid-nineteenth century, probably by Henry R. Smeltzer. It is depicted on Titus' map of Middletown as belonging to Smeltzer in 1873 (Titus 1873). Smeltzer also owned Motter's Tavern (F-4-30) and another dwelling on the north side of the National Road directly across from these structures (no longer extant). Given its apparent original one-room design, with a single wide room with a fireplace at the center of the rear wall, the building may have been originally constructed as a schoolhouse although no period maps depict it as such. In 1882, Smeltzer's widow sold this property (and others, including Motter's Tavern) to Daniel Kefauver (Liber AF-5:54). It is likely that the Kefauver's constructed the addition soon after buying the property. The Kefauvers were prominent local residents who owned a number of farms and dwellings, and at least one grist mill in the Middletown area.

The original section was only one room wide and one room deep on both the first and second floors. It was expanded in the 1880s to include the ell addition which was also one room on each floor. Some time after the construction of the addition, a two-story porch was added to the inset of the ell on the east elevation. The interior of the house was significantly altered around 1980 by its previous owner. Alterations included the partitioning of the single front room to make room for a bathroom, closet, and laundry room. The kitchen, which is in the rear addition, was remodeled around the same time. The second story is identical to the first story, according to Mrs. McDonald (access to the second story was not possible).

The Kefauver Schoolhouse, although it may be representative of a mid-nineteenth century rural Maryland schoolhouse, has undergone window replacements, exterior renovations, and interior remodeling that has compromised its integrity of materials, design, workmanship, and feeling, and no longer possesses adequate integrity to be eligible for the National Register.

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. F-4-135

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Kefauver Schoolhouse

and/or common David McDonald Residence

2. Location

street & number 4241 Route 40-A (Old National Pike) ☐ not for publicationcity, town Middletown ☒ vicinity of 6th congressional district

state Maryland county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name David McDonald

street & number 4241 Route 40-A telephone no.:

city, town Middletown state and zip code: MD 21769

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio

city, town Frederick state MD 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. F-4-135

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☐ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Kefauver Schoolhouse is adjacent to U.S. Route 40 Alt. and Hollow Road Creek about one mile east of Middletown. It is a two-story, front gabled frame building three bays wide and three bays deep. The house rests on a fieldstone foundation. There is a central brick chimney at the junction of the original rear of the house and a circa 1880 addition. Windows consist of 1/1, double-hung, aluminum sash replacements. The only remaining original window is a central attic gable window on the front of the house which is an original wood 2/2 double-hung sash. The entire house is clad with vinyl siding, and the gables and soffit have been covered with aluminum. A full-length front porch with shed roof dates from the mid-to-late twentieth century has a concrete floor and round aluminum posts. The roof has been replaced with asphalt shingles.

The original section of the interior of the house consists of a main living room which has a fireplace. To the left of the living room are several small rooms that are the result of recent renovations which divided the one large room to provide a closet, a bathroom and a laundry room. The first floor of the rear addition consists of a one room kitchen. The second story was not accessible, but the owner stated that the second story layout is identical to the first floor.

The house has a full basement. Floor and sill beams are a mixture of hand hewn and sawn beams. The basement floor is dirt.

8. Significance

Survey No. F-4-135

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	ca. 1885	Builder/Architect	unknown
Check:	Applicable Criteria:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D
	and/or		
	Applicable Exception:	<input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
	Level of Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Kefauver Schoolhouse appears to have been built in the mid-nineteenth century, probably by Henry R. Smeltzer. It is depicted on Titus' map of Middletown as belonging to Smeltzer in 1873 (Titus 1873). Smeltzer also owned Motter's Tavern (F-4-30) and another dwelling on the north side of the National Road directly across from these structures (no longer extant). Given its apparent original one-room design, with a single wide room with a fireplace at the center of the rear wall, the building may have been originally constructed as a schoolhouse although no period maps depict it as such. In 1882, Smeltzer's widow sold this property (and others, including Motter's Tavern) to Daniel Kefauver (Liber AF-5:54). It is likely that the Kefauver's constructed the addition soon after buying the property. The Kefauvers were prominent local residents who owned a number of farms and dwellings, and at least one grist mill in the Middletown area.

The present owner, Mrs. McDonald related that Noah Kefauver always maintained that the Kefauver family constructed the building specifically for use as a schoolhouse for the family's children. Mrs. McDonald dated the original structure to about 1885, explaining that there is a date at the base of the original rear exterior chimney (now enclosed by a later addition) bearing a date of "1880 something". As the house appears on the 1873 Titus map as belonging to Henry R. Smeltzer, it is more likely that the date on the fireplace refers to the addition, which coincides roughly with the purchase of the house by the Kefauver family. It is likely that the construction that Noah Kefauver recalled was that of the addition, and not the original structure.

The front porch was added sometime in the mid-to-late twentieth century. It is constructed of a concrete floor, aluminum posts, and aluminum trim. The roof of the porch is covered with architectural style fiberglass shingles.

The original section was only one room wide and one room deep on both the first and second floors. It was expanded in the 1880s to include the ell addition which was also one room on each floor. Some time after the construction of the addition, a two-story porch was added to the inset of the ell on the east elevation. The interior of the house was significantly altered around 1980 by its previous owner. Alterations included the partitioning of the single front room to make room for a bathroom, closet, and laundry room. The kitchen, which is in the rear addition, was remodeled around the same time. The second story is identical to the first story, according to the Mrs. McDonald (access to the second story was not possible).

Exterior alterations included the addition of vinyl siding and aluminum fascia and soffits in 1998, and all of the original 2/2 wood windows have been replaced with 1/1 vinyl replacement sashes. The only remaining original window appears to be the front attic window.

The Kefauver Schoolhouse, although it may be representative of a mid-nineteenth century rural Maryland schoolhouse, has undergone window replacements, exterior renovations, and interior remodeling that has compromised its integrity of materials, design, workmanship, and feeling, and no longer possesses adequate integrity to be eligible for the National Register.

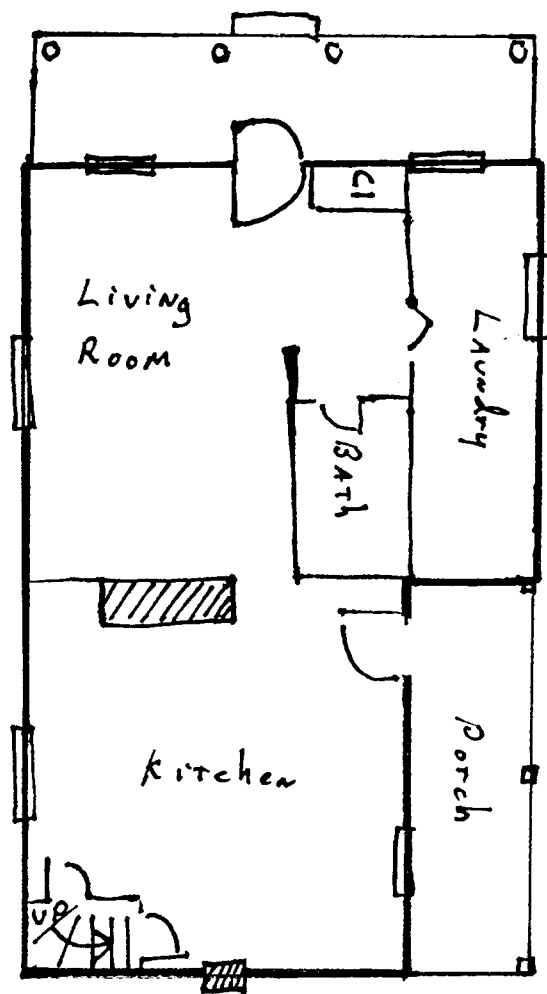
Survey No F-4-135

Titus, C.O.
1873 *Atlas of Frederick County.*

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data

Geographic Organization:	Piedmont
Chronological/Development Periods:	Agricultural-Industrial Transition (1815-1870), Industrial/Urban Dominance (1870-1930)
Historic Period Themes:	Architecture, Education
Resource Type:	Building
Historic Environment:	Rural
Historic Function	Schoolhouse, Residence
Known Designers/Architects:	None

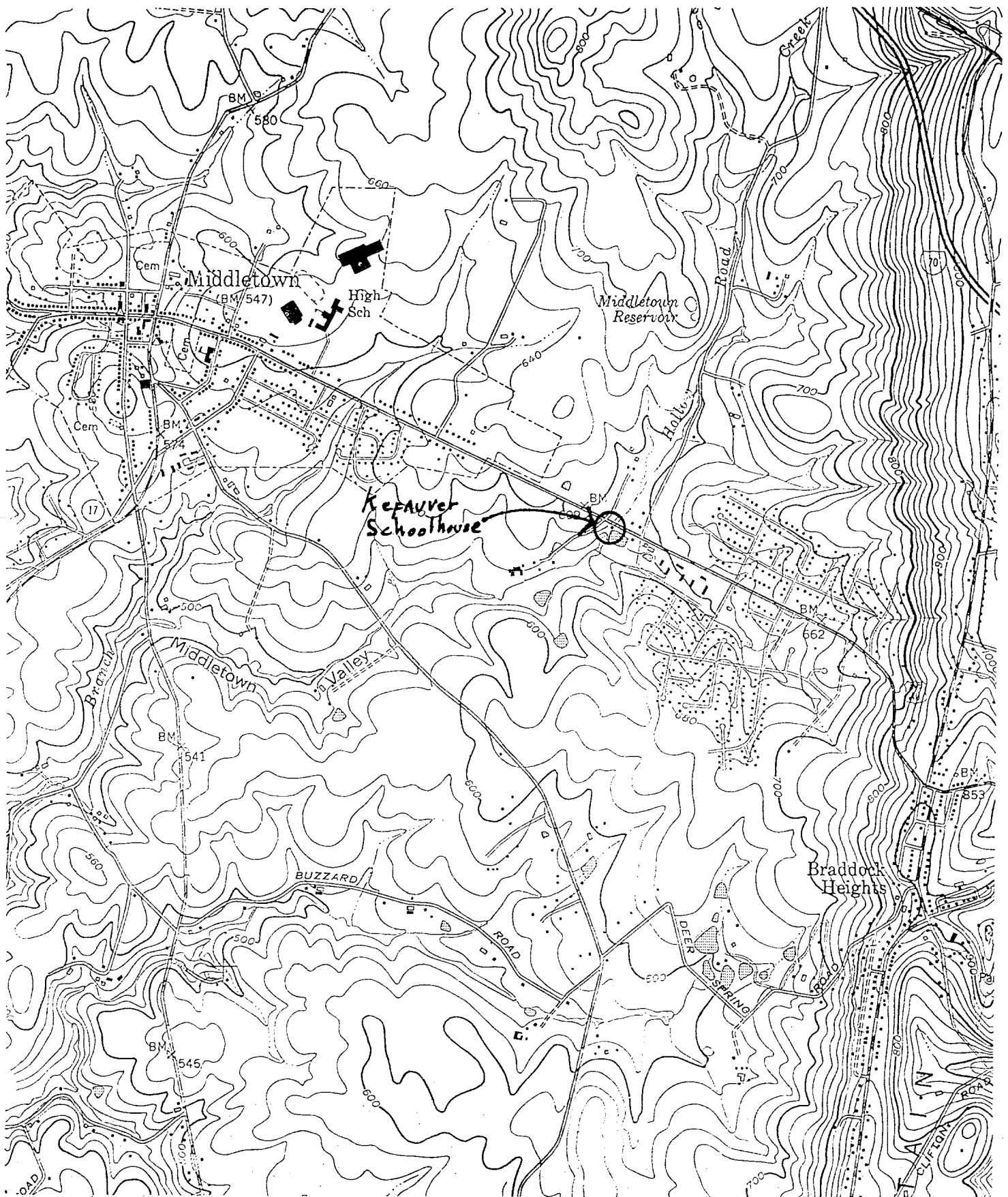
House Plan Sketch
(1st Floor)



Note: Second Floor NOT Accessible

MIHP # F-4-135

Kefauver Schoolhouse





MIHP # F-4-135

Kepauver Schoolhouse

Frederick County, Maryland

David C. Berg

1/11/99

Location of Negatives: MD SHPO

Kepauver Schoolhouse, North Elevation

#1 of 4



MIHP # F-4-135

Kepauver Schoolhouse

Frederick County, Maryland

David C. Berg

1/11/99

Location of Negatives : MD SHPO

Kepauver Schoolhouse, East Elevation

#2 of 4



MIHP # F-4-135

Kepauver Schoolhouse

Frederick County, Maryland

David C. Berg

1/11/99

Location of Negatives: MD SHPO

Kepauver Schoolhouse, West Elevation

#3 of 4



MIHP# F-4-135

Kepauver Schoolhouse

Frederick County, Maryland

David C. Berg

1/11/99

Location of Negatives: MD SHPO

Kepauver Schoolhouse, Kitchen, First Floor, Facing N.

4 of 4